Activity 1: Getting to the Root of Performance Issues

Directions: In small groups, discuss the possible reasons behind the following scenarios, each based on data from Fast Facts, data workbooks, or other data sources. Then decide what you would do to: (1) test your assumptions about the root cause(s) of the problem and (2) consider what additional data—qualitative or quantitative—you would need to better understand the issue(s).

1.	Data reports for your program indicate that Hispanic or Latino students have a lower high school completion rate than students of other ethnicities.
2.	Cross tabulations of reading achievement indicate that students in one detention facility are performing significantly more poorly than students in another detention facility.
3.	Data show that male students are earning high school diplomas at a lower rate than female students in a program.